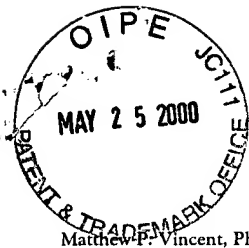


GAU 1655



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May 23, 2000

Assistant Commissioner
of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Re: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/220,398
Entitled: Method and Kits for Preparing Multicomponent
Nucleic Acid Components
By: Harney, Peter D.
Filed: December 24, 1998
Examiner: Riley, J.; Group Art Unit: 1655
Attorney Docket No.: VOV-003.02

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced patent application please find the following:

1. Request for Two-Month Extension of Time (plus one copy);
2. Response Under 37 C.F.R. §1.111; and
3. Return mail room Postcard.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any under-payments or credit any over-payments to our Deposit Account No. 06-1448.

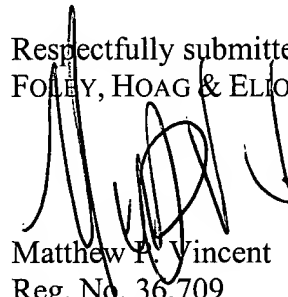
Certificate of First Class Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited
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addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, DC 20231, on the date indicated below:

May 23, 2000
Date of Signature
and Mail Deposit


Jonathan Furtado

Respectfully submitted,
FOLEY, HOAG & ELIOT LLP


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